

I am convinced that Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

I am concerned that this decision is damaging to American democracy and violates the public trust. Media companies have an obligation, both legal and moral, to serve the public interest by presenting the most pressing issues of our day in a fair and balanced way. A private company should not be allowed to use the public airwaves to further ANY political interest.

I believe that the decision by Sinclair Broadcasting to air a negative documentary singling out only one presidential candidate is base, unfair, and undemocratic. It is merely a shameless character attack having nothing to do with positions on important issues. It is time to raise the level of debate in this country to insure that Americans are receiving factual information on which they can base an intellectually honest decision.

I urge you to stop Sinclair from showing this documentary - unless, that is, they intend to show an anti-Bush documentary immediately following. Reputable media outlets present both sides of the story (see PBS' Frontline documentary "The Choice"), and not just the one that suits their views.

Thank you.